ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION

A method and data structure for monitoring the progression of a configuration transaction through a communications network is provided. The method includes creating an audit trail associated with the switch-transaction progression, iteratively updating the audit trail incident to an occurrence of a designated transaction-processing substep without overwriting previously stored data, and processing the audit trail so that it is available for access via a user interface. Historical data tracking the configuration transaction's process is preserved rather than overwritten.